In the Claims:

1. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) An electrochemical cell, which comprises:

a) a casing;

b) a first electrode ~~an anode~~;

c) a second, counter electrode ~~cathode~~ comprising a ~~cathode active material contacted to~~ a titanium current collector~~, wherein the titanium current collector is~~ provided with an outer layer ~~in contact with the cathode active material and~~ consisting essentially of titanium oxide contacted by an electrode active material; ~~and~~

d) a separator position intermediate the first and second electrodes to prevent direct physical contact between them; and

e) an electrolyte activating the first electrode ~~anode~~ in electrical association with the second electrode ~~cathode~~ housed in the casing.

2. (Withdrawn) The electrochemical cell of claim 1 wherein the titanium current collector is either a screen or a foil.

3. (Withdrawn) The electrochemical cell of claim 1 wherein the titanium oxide layer has a thickness from about 135 nm to about 240 nm.

4. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The electrochemical cell of claim 1 wherein the ~~cathode~~ electrode active material is selected from the group consisting of silver vanadium oxide, copper silver vanadium oxide, copper vanadium oxide, manganese dioxide, cobalt oxide, nickel oxide, copper oxide, titanium disulfide, copper sulfide, iron sulfide, iron disulfide, carbon, fluorinated carbon, and mixtures thereof.

5. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The electrochemical cell of claim 1 wherein the ~~cathode~~ electrode active material is selected from the group consisting of a carbonaceous material, a metal, a metal oxide, a mixed metal oxide, a metal sulfide, and mixtures thereof.

6. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The electrochemical cell of claim 1 wherein the ~~cathode~~ electrode active material further comprises at least one of a binder material and a conductive additive.

7. (Withdrawn) The electrochemical cell of claim 6 wherein the binder material is selected from the group consisting of polytetrafluoroethylene, polyvinylidene fluoride, polyethylenetetrafluoroethylene, polyamides, polyimides, and mixtures thereof.

8. (Withdrawn) The electrochemical cell of claim 6 wherein the conductive additive is selected from the group consisting of carbon, graphite powder, acetylene black, titanium powder, aluminum powder, nickel powder, stainless steel powder, and mixtures thereof.

9. (Withdrawn) The electrochemical cell of claim 1 wherein the casing is of titanium and also comprises an outer layer consisting essentially of titanium oxide.

10. to 15. (Cancelled)

16. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) An electrode, which comprises:

a) an electrode active material; and

b) a titanium current collector provided with an outer layer ~~in contact with the electrode active material and~~ consisting essentially of titanium oxide in contact with the electrode active material.

17. (Withdrawn) The electrode of claim 16 wherein the titanium current collector is either a screen or a foil.

18. (Withdrawn) The electrode of claim 16 wherein the titanium oxide layer has a thickness from about 135 nm to about 240 nm.

19. (Withdrawn) The electrode of claim 16 wherein the electrode active material is selected from the group consisting of silver vanadium oxide, copper silver vanadium oxide, copper vanadium oxide, manganese dioxide, cobalt oxide, nickel oxide, copper oxide, titanium disulfide, copper sulfide, iron sulfide, iron disulfide, carbon, fluorinated carbon, and mixtures thereof.

20. to 26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing an electrochemical cell, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a first electrode ~~an anode~~;

b) providing a second, counter electrode ~~cathode~~, comprising the steps of:

i) providing a titanium current collector;

ii) oxidizing the titanium current collector to provide it with an outer layer consisting essentially of titanium oxide; and

iii) contacting the thusly conditioned titanium current collector with ~~a cathode~~ an electrode active material to provide the second electrode ~~cathode~~; ~~and~~

c) positioning a separator intermediate the first and second electrodes to prevent direct physical contact between them; and

d) activating the first and second electrodes ~~anode and cathode~~ housed inside a casing with an electrolyte.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 ~~wherein~~ including providing the titanium current collector ~~is~~ being either a screen or a foil.

29. (Currently Amended 1) The method of claim 27 ~~wherein~~ including providing the titanium oxide layer ~~has~~ having a thickness from about 135 nm to about 240 nm.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 ~~wherein the~~ including oxidizing the titanium current collector in ~~atmosphere is~~ air.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 including selecting the ~~cathode~~ electrode active material from the group consisting of silver vanadium oxide, copper silver vanadium oxide, copper vanadium oxide, manganese dioxide, cobalt oxide, nickel oxide, copper oxide, titanium disulfide, copper sulfide, iron sulfide, iron disulfide, carbon, fluorinated carbon, and mixtures thereof.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 including mixing the ~~cathode~~ electrode active material with at least one of a binder material and a conductive additive prior to contact with the current collector.

33. to 37. (Cancelled)

38. (New) The method of claim 27 including oxidizing the titanium current collector by heating it in air at a temperature of from about 200°C to about 450°C.

39. (New) The method of claim 38 including heating the titanium current collector for a period of time ranging from about 5 minutes to about 24 hours.

40. (New) The method of claim 27 including oxidizing the titanium current collector by heating it in air at a temperature of about 300°C for about 30 minutes.

41. (New) The method of claim 27 including oxidizing the titanium current collector in an electrolytic bath at an applied voltage of about 3 volts to about 30 volts.

42. (New) The method of claim 41 including subjecting the titanium current collector to the applied voltage for a time period ranging from about 0.5 second to about 60 seconds.

43. (New) An electrochemical cell, which comprises:

a) a casing;

b) an anode;

c) a cathode comprising a titanium current collector provided with an outer layer consisting essentially of titanium oxide contacted by fluorinated carbon; and

d) a separator position intermediate the anode and cathode to prevent direct physical contact between them; and

e) an electrolyte activating the anode in electrical

association with the cathode housed in the casing.

44. (New) The electrochemical cell of claim 43 wherein the titanium current collector is either a screen or a foil.

45. (New) The electrochemical cell of claim 43 wherein the titanium oxide layer has a thickness from about 135 nm to about 240 nm.

46. (New) An electrode, which comprises:

a) an electrode active material of fluorinated carbon; and

b) a titanium current collector provided with an outer layer consisting essentially of titanium oxide in contact with the fluorinated carbon.

47. (New) The electrode of claim 46 wherein the titanium current collector is either a screen or a foil.

48. (New) The electrode of claim 46 wherein the titanium oxide layer has a thickness from about 135 nm to about 240 nm.

49. (New) The electrode of claim 46 wherein the fluorinated carbon is CF_x.

50. (New) A method for constructing an electrochemical cell, comprising the steps of:

a) providing an anode;

b) providing a cathode, comprising the steps of:

i) providing a titanium current collector;

ii) oxidizing the titanium current collector to provide it with an outer layer consisting essentially of titanium oxide; and

iii) contacting the thusly conditioned titanium current collector with fluorinated carbon as a cathode active material to provide the cathode;

c) positioning a separator intermediate the anode and cathode to prevent direct physical contact between them; and

d) activating the anode and cathode housed inside a casing with an electrolyte.

51. (New) The method of claim 50 including providing the titanium current collector being either a screen or a foil.

52. (New) The method of claim 50 including providing the titanium oxide layer having a thickness from about 135 nm to about 240 nm.

53. (New) The method of claim 50 including oxidizing the titanium current collector by heating it in air at a temperature of from about 200°C to about 450°C for a period of time ranging from about 5 minutes to about 24 hours.

54. (New) The method of claim 50 including oxidizing the titanium current collector by heating it in air at a temperature of about 300°C for about 30 minutes.

55. (New) The method of claim 50 including oxidizing the titanium current collector in an electrolytic bath at an applied voltage of about 3 volts to about 30 volts for a time period ranging from about 0.5 second to about 60 seconds.